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# Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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### THE COLONEL PRATES OF HONOR

Colonel Roosevelt has written a long letter to the Progressive national committee declining to accept the nomination at the hands of the Progressive party. He at the same time announces that he will support Hughes and advises them to do the same.

He says it is a time to place patriotism above party and to vote the republican ticket straight. He has a great deal to say about "honor." Just what he means by "honor" is a mystery. He bolts the republican party that had for nearly eight years given him the highest position man can attain, and had in addition allowed him to name his successor, and then elected that successor William Howard Taft. Then this mouthy gentleman who prates so loudly of honor, became disgruntled at the man he had selected for the place and asserted he was unfit for it. He asked the party to allow him to name another candidate for the place in 1912, but the leaders of the party decided that he had been the whole thing long enough and refused to consent to his naming himself for the third term.

Then this man of "honor" started a party of his own, gathering around him some of the brightest and brainiest men in the country, and from both parties. He made a wonderful race too and while beaten he also beat the party to which he owed all the honors that had been heaped upon him.

That should have been enough to establish him as a man of "honor" but it was only a beginning in the way of infamy for this modern Sir Galahad.

After having held the presidency nearly eight years, after having had the man he selected for the place hold it for four years, and then when he had forced his party out of power he again puts up a job by which he hoped to scare the old guard into submission to his dictation. If ever there was a dirty political hold-up attempted anywhere, it was that of this honorable Roosevelt at Chicago, June 6 to 8 of this year. He was the head of the party he had brought into existence and he held it inactive day after day until all hope of forcing the republicans to nominate him had vanished. Up to that time he encouraged it to stand firm in his support and used it as a pawn in his game of politics. His henchman, another man of honor, one Perkins, held the convention back from action at his bosses' dictation, because if it acted Roosevelt's bridges would have been burned behind him. It was not the party either of them was looking after, but Roosevelt, and he alone.

As a last bluff the Colonel offered to compromise on Senator Lodge, whom he knew was an impossibility, still hoping to finally bluff the old guard into naming him. When all was over he still allowed the loyal friends who had supported him to go ahead and nominate him and prevented them naming some one else, leaving the way open for his betrayal of them.

Then he slunk to cover and began to perfect plans by which he could get back into the graces of the old party, for he still has the idea that four years from now he can get the nomination. To square himself he deliberately threw down the men who had followed him so loyally, and has the effrontery to tell them he is going back to the old party and to ask them to forget party and all else, and follow him.

It remains to be seen if these gentlemen will follow the besmirched plumes of their one time Henry of Navarre, in his skulking surrender, as they did when he led them against what they thought was the common enemy. Many of them will naturally go back to the republican party whence Roosevelt seduced them, but they will go back in spite of Roosevelt not because of him.

Palo Alto claims the first war baby. Nine hours after Company L left for the mobilization camp, the wife of Private Joseph Ozonne became a mother. The baby was a big boy and was named John Pershing Ozonne, in honor of the commander of the forces in Mexico. So far as heard from the claim of the Ozonne's to the first war baby remains undisputed.

Something, of course, will in the course of time and perhaps not a very long time either, take the place of the movies, for the world moves rapidly and someone will discover something to please the public more than the movies do now. There is another question along this line, and that is what will come after the auto? At present the answer most apt to be made would be "the flying machine," and this is probably correct. It would be quite a serious joke on the American people if after they had spent millions on roads, they should suddenly discover they had but little use for them. This suggests that it might be the part of wisdom to build as many good roads now as possible, for with the coming of the airship, the strong backing now had by the good roads movement from the auto owners would soon be lost if airships, in a large measure, took the place of the joy wagons. Of course the roads will always be needed for the heavy hauling, but the tourist and speed fans, the family auto parties and pleasure riders who now want the best of roads would have no interest in them once the airship becomes cheap enough to become a general plaything.

Reed college it is said has adopted and will teach the simplified form of spelling. When Mahomet could not compel the mountain to come to him he went to the mountain, and it may be the same principle is back of the Reed college movement. The art of spelling is becoming a lost one in the colleges as well as the public schools, for the pupils in them are not nearly so good spellers as were turned out by the country schools years ago. Then it was the custom to have spelling matches in the schools and between schools. The result was a high average as speller. Under our modern system Reed college has discovered that it cannot teach its students to spell, and that they are deficient in this branch when they come to it from the public schools. It proposes to make the spelling easier for them, giving a course in spelling by ear instead of by note.

La Nacion, the leading newspaper of Argentina, or for that matter of South America, is out with a suggestion for mediation between the United States and Mexico, by which it thinks war may be averted, and the difficulties surrounding the Mexican situation be removed. It proposes a neutral zone along the border into which the United States may send its troops at any time in pursuit of bandits or raiders. At the same time David Starr Jordan and the other arbitrators, five in all, for Bryan refuses to take part, are gathering at El Paso to discuss the situation and if possible arrive at some solution that will settle the Mexican trouble without resort to arms. The outlook for peace from these sources, however, is not encouraging.

The Oregonian yesterday called attention to the general lack of familiarity with the Bible. In doing so it called attention to many familiar passages with the doubt that many of its readers could, off-hand, tell from what book of the Bible they were taken. It also called attention to the inability of most folks to tell where any quotation from the Bible might be found, and also that many familiar quotations and expressions in every day use were not known by their users as Bible quotations. The Oregonian's list might be continued at great length with few to say whether the quotations were from the Bible or some other source. The expression often used and considered slang "I am escaped by the skin of my teeth?" is from the Bible. Do you know who used it?

It is pretty hard to keep track of the movements of our boys at Clackamas, owing to the numerous and sudden changes of orders concerning them. Sunday evening it was expected they would start for the front Monday, but Sunday night the orders were countermanded and the troops ordered held in camp until they were fully equipped. Monday afternoon another order was made to the effect that all troops should be started for the front as soon as mustered without waiting for equipment which could be given them at points on the way. This morning the orders are to entrain today and these will probably not be changed.

Now would be an excellent time to clean up the city for the cherry fair and celebration of next week. The lawns and parking should be mowed and trimmed and vacant lots cleaned of their growth of weeds and grass. If property owners neglect their duty in this respect the city officials should remind them of it in a way that they will remember in the future. It is the duty of every citizen to assist in keeping Salem trim and neat.

The friendly spirit of the South American republics in offering to mediate between the United States and Mexico is appreciated, but there is nothing to mediate or arbitrate. One cannot arbitrate with one who is trying to assassinate his family, or mediate with a burglar who is rifling his house.

The Oregonian and many other republican newspapers of the country have just discovered that Col. Theodore Roosevelt is the greatest patriot in America. When he was leading the Bull Moosers they called him almost everything else.

The dispatches intimate that the Mexicans are contemplating executing the soldiers captured at Carrizal. If they should do so it will be a terrible accounting they will have to make in the near future.

The Oregonian asks: "What will come after the movies?" We do not pretend to guess the answer, but do hope it will be something more intelligent than the things after them now, the censors.

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### HAS MR. HUGHES AN ISSUE?

(From the New York World.)

Mr. Hughes' telegram of acceptance was not written in a hurry. Evidently it was prepared, as he was prepared, during days and weeks of judicial silence, to meet the occasion which at length presented itself.

Speaking after long meditation of "this critical period in our national history" and of the "existing exigencies," Mr. Hughes nevertheless meets the crisis and exigencies with generalities and platitudes common enough when he abandoned politics in 1910, but sadly out of place today. In spite of the favor with which they regard him, his countrymen, we believe, will turn from these hackneyed expressions with pain and disappointment.

The times are indeed out of joint—so much so that a candidate hoping to displace a president who for more than three years has nobly and wisely borne crushing burdens can hardly expect to win great public approval with fragments of ancient party platitudes and repetitions of campaign cries made familiar in hand-drum days.

Not partial to political mysteries or antiquities, the American people will insist upon bringing Mr. Hughes down to date.

What, for instance, has President Wilson done that Mr. Hughes would not have done, and what has President Wilson left undone that Mr. Hughes would have done?

In the enforcement of American rights to life and property at sea, would Mr. Hughes have resorted to diplomacy or to war? Here he must be specific.

Is he dissatisfied with the settlement of the submarine issue on terms that gave this country the most notable of all diplomatic triumphs?

In regard to the Mexican situation, would he have embraced Huerta and government by assassination, and would he now assist a crippled neighbor or help him to stand erect?

If the preparedness to which he refers is not being fully met by the vast increase of armament accomplished or under way at Washington, would he resort to Prussian conscription and hand over the United States treasury to our own ambitious Krupp?

Is he so much in love with "sound protective principles" that, with the industry and commerce of the world dislocated by war he would invite the attorneys of Big Business, heedless of everything but their own glutony, to write their extortions once more into the laws of the land?

Is the Americanism to which he subscribes in such general terms the Americanism that President Wilson has upheld in the face of foes foreign and domestic, or is it the made-in-Germany Americanism of the German-American alliance?

Finally, in his unworthy and uncalled-for assault upon our devoted and overworked diplomatic representatives in Europe, has he any suggestion for spoils, or any fact to go upon except that the faithful men thus belittled are Democrats?

The American people have respected the silence of the jurist bound by high tradition. They will not respect the silence of the candidate.

Mr. Roosevelt represented the true opposition to President Wilson. What does Mr. Hughes want that Mr. Wilson has not given us?

### YAMHILL FARMERS URGE EFFECTIVE WORK ON ROADS

McMinnville, Or., June 27.—The McMinnville Commercial club had many farmers and other citizens from all parts of Yamhill county at a meeting held here last Wednesday, discussed the present system of road improvement work and declared against the supervisor system, favoring instead the single roadmaster system as a saving of the taxpayers' money. They also favored the distribution of road funds so that each district would secure at least 75 per cent of the money, raised within its boundaries, for expenditure therein. Farmers' lateral roads were favored so that residents could travel to towns and railroad points at all seasons of the year and the adoption of standard specifications for all roads and bridges.

### Women's Clothing To Be Higher This Fall

New York—Higher prices for women's cloaks and suits next fall as a result of the strike and lockout in the garment industry in this city were predicted Friday by Benjamin Schlesinger, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union.

In fact, Mr. Schlesinger said, the lockout of 30,000 workers by the manufacturers association was to provide an excuse to raise prices. The union head cited the close of the garment

strike in 1910 as a parallel, saying that prices of suits and cloaks were increased in some cases as high as 50 per cent at that time.

President Wile of the Manufacturers' association denied that the lockout was prompted by a desire to raise prices, declaring prices were governed by supply and demand. No discussion of price increase had taken place in the manufacturers' councils in connection with the labor trouble, he said.

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### EARLY MORNING

The early morning's glory has baffled all the poets; no one can chant its glory in comprehensive notes. I'd fain describe its splendor, but when I take my pen, I ruin a suspender, and give it up again. For e'en a bard of Avon might punch his golden lyre, until he grew a spavin, and felt his muscles tire—he could not do it justice; no bard can do that same, although his marble bust is perched in the Hall of Fame. A Milton or a Spenser might write majestic junk, and then methinks the censor would mark the product "Bunk." Some themes are far too lofty for mortal folks, I think; and no one but a softy will splutter them with ink. And when I see the morning, the slowly rising sun, whose first rays are adorning the landscape, green and dun; the never ending wonder that in the dawning lies, when Night's veil's torn asunder, disclosing gleaming skies, I view the scene of splendor, but when an ode I'd sing, I spoil a good suspender, and cannot chant a thing.

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